

Although these women have not always been adequately supported by their government because of soviet era laws forbidding them from enlisting, they have persisted.

In 2017 a group of women veterans got together and lobbied for their rights, which brought about a much-needed change in the culture in the Ukrainian military.

Just last year the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense determined that female soldiers marching in a military parade celebrating independence from the Soviet Union would wear high heels, not boots.

Regardless of the numerous hurdles and mockeries Ukrainian women have faced and continue to face today, there are thousands who are putting their lives at risk to protect and defend their homeland.

Among them have been a 79-year-old woman who recently learned how to fire a gun, a former beauty queen Anastasia Lenna, who represented Ukraine at the 2015 Miss Grand International pageant—and Kristina, a former wedding singer.

Kristina was living in Italy last summer when tensions between Ukraine and Russia rose. While knowing the security risks, Kristina returned to her country to become a soldier.

She told a VICE news reporter that “The risk of saying goodbye to life is always there, [and she is] not afraid of death; [she] is afraid to [become a slave].” Words that will forever stick with me.

Women’s History Month is a celebration of women’s contributions to history, culture and society, and there is no better example of this than those women fighting in Ukraine today.

So, on this day, March 9, 2022, I would like to publicly commend the women fighting in Ukraine for their boundless courage and bravery. The world stands with you and will continue to fight alongside you to put an end to Putin’s cruel parade.

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, I would just say that it is a joy to be on the floor with Representative JACKSON LEE. I thank the gentlewoman very, very much. She makes my job very easy.

Madam Speaker, I yield again to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER).

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I thank the leader of our caucus, Ms. FRANKEL.

Madam Speaker, I am just going to close with some expectations. I am leaving Congress this year, and I want to convey to you, Madam Speaker, to the leadership of the Democratic Women’s Caucus, and to all of my colleagues how important I think that you are as guardians of womanhood. Our job is never done.

So while we may celebrate these small victories from time to time, the ERA is not part of our Constitution. Of the 193 countries in the world, 165 have the ERA in their Constitutions. The United States does not. It is 24 little words. Thirty-eight States have passed it. We have this deadline that we have struck from the legislation in the House. The Senate has not taken it up.

Femicide is a huge problem in Latin America. The Democratic Women’s Caucus will have a presentation this Friday on that. The 5,000 missing Na-

tive-American women in this country that really we had no cognizance of until we had a Native-American woman in the Congress to talk about it.

Finally, a new issue—probably not a new issue—is one that has just percolated to the surface, and that is female inmates in Federal prisons who are raped by the wardens, the chaplains, and the guards. Congresswoman BASS, Congressman SWALWELL, and I went to the Federal correctional institution in Dublin this week.

Now, at that one prison, the warden had raped inmates, the chaplain had raped inmates, and two of the guards that we know of had raped inmates.

It is profound that we change the culture in these prisons to prevent that from happening and from the training of guards and leadership at those facilities to treat these women with a certain amount of dignity that you would just provide to another human being.

What we heard about the kinds of things that are said about them—they are called hos and called just horrible things that make us realize that we still have a lot of work to do.

So as I conclude, let me just say, Madam Speaker, that we are the guardians of womanhood for the future, and I will look on with fondness and great appreciation.

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership. She will be missed. I know she will go on to bigger and better things. She has made her mark in the history of this country for sure.

I want to thank my colleagues, SHEILA JACKSON LEE and JACKIE SPEIER, for coming to the floor. They gave us a great education tonight, and I appreciate that.

I will conclude, Madam Speaker, the way I started, which is I thank all those millions and millions of unknown women who lift us up every day, who dry our tears, and who share our happiness with that unconditional love, and those are our mothers who are probably, as I said, the most influential part of the history of the world.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 55. An act to amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a hate crime act.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, March 17, 2022, for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 6 o’clock and 52 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the

House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

EC-3643. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General Kenneth F. McKenzie, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3644. A letter from the Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board’s semiannual Monetary Policy Report, pursuant to Public Law 106-569; to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-3645. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to South Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13664 of April 3, 2014, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3646. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities that was declared in Executive Order 13694 of April 1, 2015, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3647. A letter from the Secretary and Treasury, Resolution Funding Corporation, transmitting the Corporation’s 2021 management reports and financial statements, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3515(a)(1); Public Law 101-576, Sec. 303(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 107-289, Sec. 2(a)); (116 Stat. 2049); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3648. A letter from the Senior Congressional Official, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau’s 2021 No FEAR Act Report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3649. A letter from the General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department’s Fiscal Year 2021 Ginnie Mae Annual Management Report, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)); (104 Stat. 2854); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3650. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting a notification of an action on nomination and discontinuation of service in an acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3651. A letter from the National Adjutant and Chief Executive Officer, Disabled American Veterans, transmitting the reports and proceedings of the 2021 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, held